

That which is claimed:

1. A method for making an absorbent composite from a continuous tow comprising the steps of:
  - spreading a crimped tow;
  - de-registering the crimped tow;
  - shaping the de-registered tow; and
  - distributing a particulate onto the shaped tow wherein particulate distribution being controlled through a shaped orifice.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the shaped orifice being rectangular.
3. The method of Claim 1 wherein the shaped orifice being triangular.
4. The method of Claim 1 wherein the shaped orifice being serrated or toothed.
5. The method of Claim 1 further comprising shaping the de-registered tow to a substantially rectangular cross-section.
6. The method of Claim 1 further comprising applying a liquid to the tow.

7. An apparatus for making an absorbent composite from a continuous tow comprising the steps of:

means for spreading a crimped tow;

means for de-registering the crimped tow;

means for shaping the de-registered tow; and

means for distributing a particulate onto the shaped tow wherein particulate distribution being controlled through a shaped orifice.

8. The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein the shaped orifice being rectangular.

9. The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein the shaped orifice being triangular.

10. The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein the shaped orifice being serrated or toothed.

11. The apparatus of Claim 7 further comprising means for shaping the de-registered tow to a substantially rectangular cross-section.

12. The apparatus of Claim 7 further comprising means for applying a liquid to the tow.